

The Michigan Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)
in partnership with
Reid Law Offices • St. Vincent Catholic Charities • Lansing Community College
Paralegal Association • Local AILA Attorneys
presents:

CITIZENSHIP DAY

**Immigration attorneys, paralegals and interpreters will be on hand
to assist in the preparation of naturalization applications**

Date: Saturday, March 24, 2007

Time: 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Cost: \$20 per person

Lansing

Lansing Community College
400 N Capitol Ave, Lansing, MI 48933
Gannon Vocational Tech Building
Lower Level

Naturalization Eligibility

- Be at least 18 years old by the date you file
- Have been a lawful permanent resident for at least the last five years (or three years, if married to a U.S. citizen).
- Have been present in the U.S. for 2-1/2 of the past five years (or 1-1/2 of the past three, if married to a U.S. citizen), and have not been outside the U.S. for one year or more within the last five years (or three years, if married to a U.S. citizen)
- Have been a resident of the state from which you are filing your application for at least three months
- Be able to speak, read and write ordinary English
- Be able to pass a U.S. history and government exam
- Be a person of "good moral character" (this will be difficult to establish if you have failed to pay child support, taxes, or have been convicted of certain crimes, among other things)
- Be willing to take an oath of loyalty to the U.S.

What to Bring to Naturalization Day

Everyone

- \$20 fee for assistance (includes the cost of copies - cash or check made payable to "AILA Michigan")
- Your Permanent Resident Card (Green Card)
- \$330 filing fee (no fee if active military – bring proof of status)
- \$70 fingerprinting fee (no fee if over the age of 75)
- 2 color passport photos
- List of home addresses for the past five years and the dates in which you resided at these addresses
- List of employer names and addresses for the past five years, including the dates you worked with these employers
- Dates you have been outside of the U.S. since becoming a permanent resident and the countries you traveled to during these trips
- If possible bring an interpreter to translate

Other documents

- **If the name on your green card is different than your current legal name:**
Bring the documents that legally changed your name (marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court document).
- **If you are applying for US citizenship based upon a marriage to a US citizen bring:**
- Proof your spouse had been a citizen for the past 3 years (spouse's birth certificate, naturalization certificate, certificate of citizenship, US passport, or form FS240);
- Current marriage certificate;
- Proof of termination of all prior marriages of your spouse (divorce decrees, annulment, or death certificates);
- Document showing that you and your spouse are still living together (examples: tax returns, bank statements, leases, mortgages, birth certificates of your children, IRS-certified copies of income taxes for the past 3 years or IRS tax return transcript for the last 3 years).
- **If you have been married more than one time:**
- Bring proof that ALL earlier marriages ended (Divorce decree(s), annulment(s), or death certificates(s)).
- **If you have taken a trip outside of the US lasting longer than 6 months since becoming a Permanent Resident:**
- Bring IRS tax return "transcript" for last 5 years (or last 3 years if married to a U.S. citizen)
- Rent or mortgage payments; Pay stubs.
- **If you have a dependent spouse or children who do not live with you bring:**
- Any court order to provide financial support;
- Evidence of your financial support (examples: cancelled checks, money orders receipt, evidence of wage garnishments, or letter from parent or guardian who cares for your children).
- **If you think you have been arrested, detained, or if you have had to appear before a court for any reason whether in the last five years or earlier:**
- Bring ALL documents relating to the arrest, conviction, court appearance, and final disposition.
- **EXCEPTION--**Minor traffic violations (examples: parking tickets, speeding tickets).
- **If your federal, state, or local taxes are overdue (or you have failed to pay them):**
- Bring copies of any documents, letters, or papers you sent to or received from the government about the problem.
- **Selective Service:** In general, all men ages 18 to 25 present in the U.S. (regardless of citizenship or immigration status) are required to register for the U.S. Selective Service. Only men who are in the U.S. in valid nonimmigrant status (i.e. on a student, temporary worker, or visitor's visa) while age 18 to 25 are not required to register. If you were required to register at any time when you were in the U.S., even if you are at an age which does not require you to register now, please bring proof of your registration .
- If you do not have proof of your registration, you can go to the Selective Service web site (www.sss.gov), enter your name, Social Security number, and birth date, and make a print out showing that you registered. Bring this print out with you. Or you can call (847) 688-6888 or (847) 688-2576 to get proof that you registered. You should submit this with your naturalization application.

Questions? Email: Usmigrate@aol.com